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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY	Hungary/USSR	REPORT	
SUBJECT	Railroad Bridge at Záhony	DATE DISTR.	4 January 1955
DATE OF INFO.		NO. OF PAGES	4
PLACE ACQUIRED		REQUIREMENT NO.	RD
		REFERENCES	

25X1

This is UNEVALUATED
 Information

THE SOURCE EVALUATIONS IN THIS REPORT ARE DEFINITIVE.
 THE APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE.
 (FOR KEY SEE REVERSE)

1. The original railroad bridge between Záhony and Chop across the Tisza River was destroyed by the retreating German troops. In the spring of 1945 the USSR constructed a temporary bridge which was in use until the beginning of 1948. In 1946 units of the Soviet Engineer Corps had started construction of a new permanent-type steel bridge, which was completed and put into operation 1948.
2. The bridge is made up of two sections: The northern is in Soviet territory and crosses over the northern bank of the river. The southern part of the bridge is in Hungarian territory. The border runs in the middle of the Tisza River.
 - a. The northern section is approximately 350 m. long, 6 m. wide, and is resting on four cement piers. The roadway of the bridge is from 8 to 12 m. above the level of the ground. There are catwalks on both sides of the bridge.
 - b. The southern part is also approximately 350 m. long and 6 m. wide. The bridge rests on four cement piers, of which two are on the bank and two are in the river.
3. The bridge is 15 m. over the mean high water. It is a steel-truss bridge, with the side girders 8 to 10 m. high. All the steel parts were constructed in the Mavag shops in Budapest.
4. The railroad embankment on both sides of the bridge varies from 8 to 10 m. above the surrounding terrain. The grade is about 10%. The Záhony-Chop line has three tracks (one interlaced) of which two have heavy rails, 47 kg. per meter. The bridge can be used by standard and wide gauge trains.
5. At the point where the bridge crosses the Tisza, the river banks are 10 to 15 m. high. In Soviet territory, about 250 m. from the bank, there is a barbed wire fence approximately 4 m. high.

25X1

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(NOTE: Washington distribution indicated by "X"; Field distribution by "#".)

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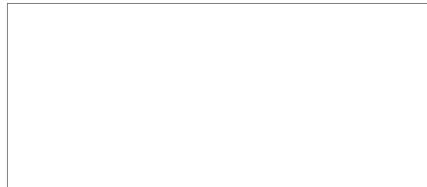
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- 2 -

6. The Hungarian side of the bridge is guarded by members of the AVH and the Soviet side, by members of the MVD.

Annexes:

1. Over-all view of the railroad bridge near Zahony (1 page).
2. Sketch of the railroad bridge on the Soviet-Hungarian border near Zahony (1 page).



25X1

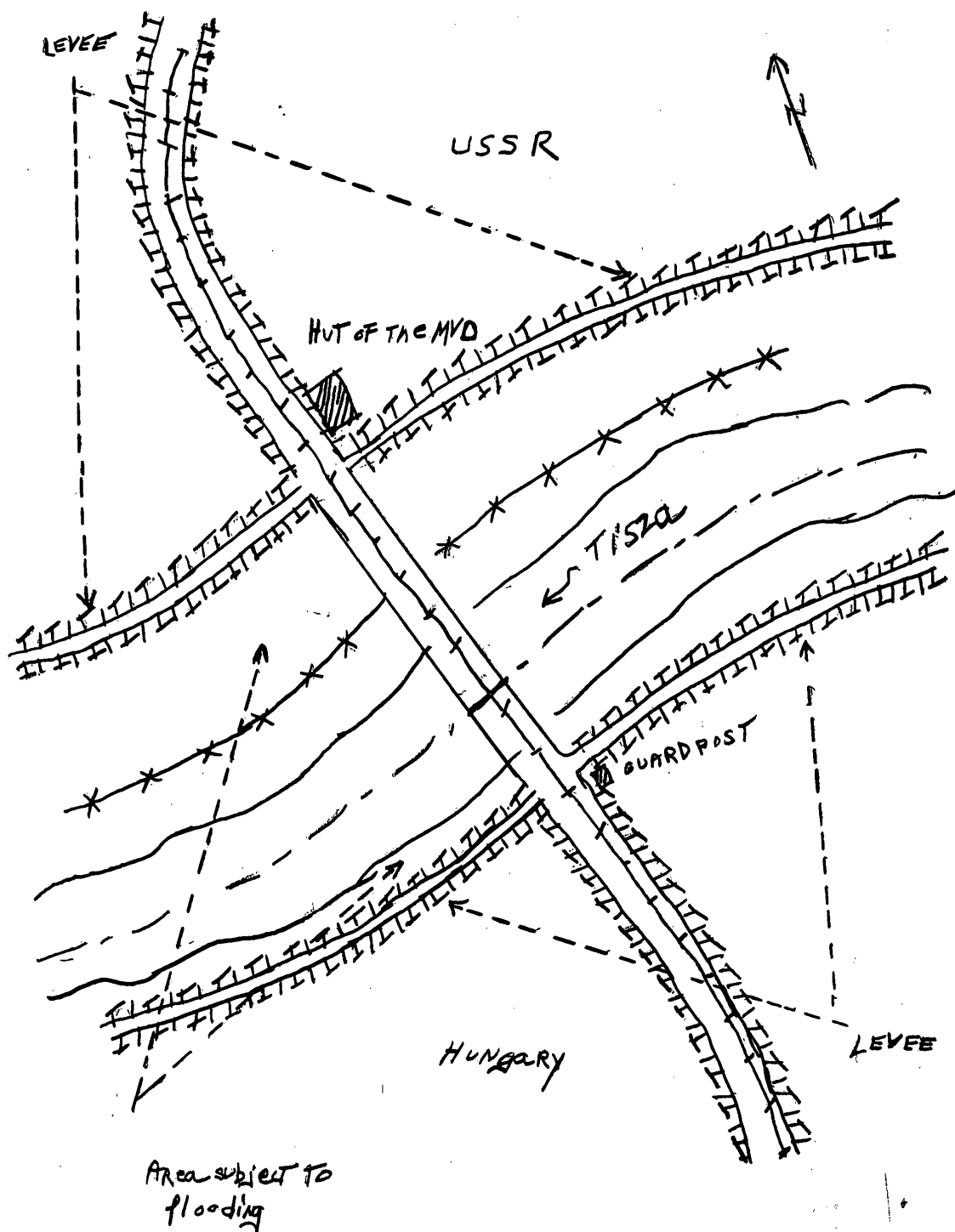
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- 3 -

Annex 1: Area of the Railroad Bridge Near Záhony



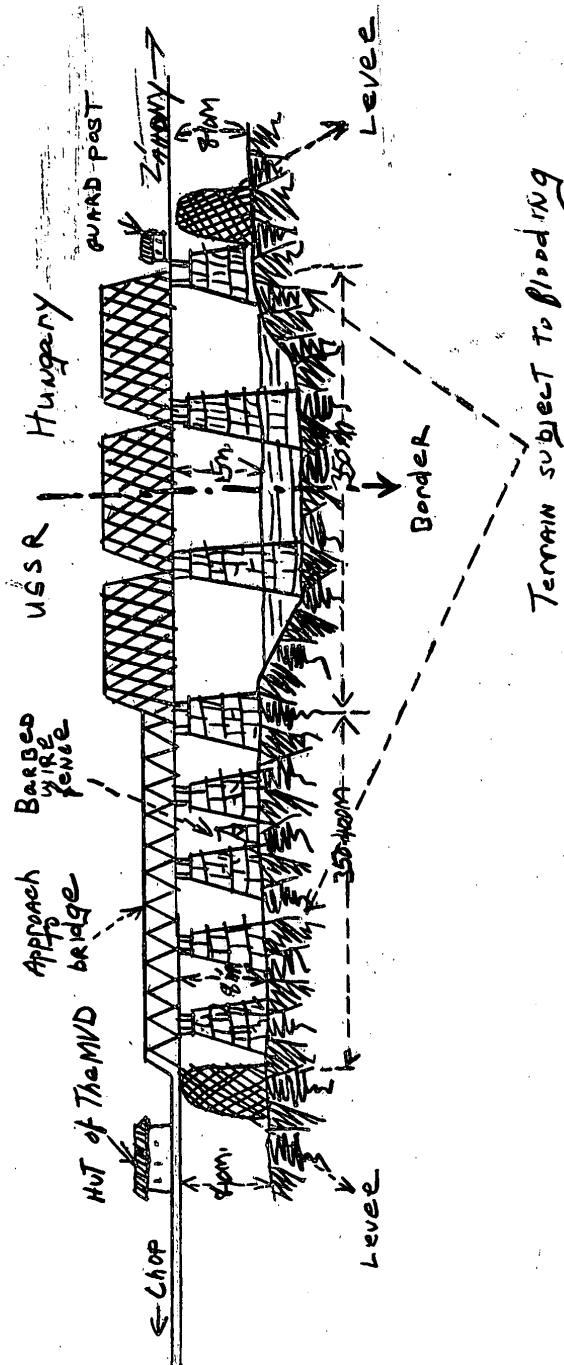
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- 4 -

Annex 2: Railroad Bridge near Záhony



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